

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-10, 16-26, 57, 59, and 60-64, 66-68, and 80-88 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 16, 57, 59, 60, 66-68, and 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, and 88 being independent.

Claims 84-88 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-26, 57, and 59 were previously indicated as being allowable.

In the Advisory Action dated April 2, 2004, the Examiner requested clarification of Applicants' comment in the Amendment filed March 9, 2004 that Claims 1-15 had been canceled. This comment contained a typographical error and should have stated that Claims 11 - 15 had been canceled. Claims 1-10 remain pending in the application.

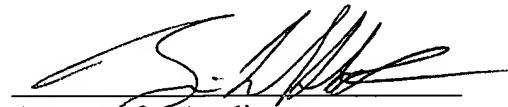
More specifically, the Office Action dated December 17, 2003 indicated that Claims 1-26, 57, and 59 were allowed. Applicants merely intended to point out that Claims 11-15 had been canceled previously. *See* July 9, 2001 Amendment. In any event, Claims 11-15 are now represented as Claims 84-88. Since Claims 11-15 were indicated as being allowable, Applicants submit that new Claims 84-88 corresponding thereto are likewise allowable.

Regarding the remaining rejected claims, Applicants request entry of the amendments indicated in the March 9, 2004 Amendment, submit that those claims are allowable for the reasons given in the Remarks in that Amendment, and request further consideration of those amendments and remarks.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", is written over a horizontal line.

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